

Message Text

PAGE 01 NATO 01468 151906Z
ACTION EUR-12

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S E C R E T USNATO 1468

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, NATO, MNUC, NPG
SUBJECT: NPF: MARITIME STUDY TERMS OF REFERENCE

REF: (A) STATE 052875 (DTG 100002Z MAR 77), (B) USNATO 1207
(DTG 041839Z MAR 77)

1. AT MARCH 11 MEETING, NPG STAFF GROUP AGREED ON REVISED FORMULATION FOR THE PERMREPS COVER NOTE TO THE MARITIME STUDY TERMS OF REFERENCE (TOR) THAT WAS TABLED BY US REP PURSUANT TO GUIDANCE IN REF A. US REP EXPLAINED IN INTRODUCING THE FORMULATION THAT HIS AUTHORITIES DESIRED TO PRESEFVE FLEXIBILITY CONCERNING POSSIBLE FURTHER STUDY OF MARITIME ISSUES SO THAT FINAL DECISIONS COULD BE LEFT TO MINISTERS. HE ALSO NOTED THAT HE HAD DEVELOPED THE FORMULATION IN COOPERATION WITH THE ITALIAN DELEGATION. THE ITALIAN REP, IN ACCEPTING THE FORMULATION, SAID HE APPRECIATED THE US POSITION AND SAID THAT HIS AUTHORITIES VIEWED THE FORMULATION AS A GENERAL UNDERSTANDING BUT NOT A FORMAL COMMITMENT. DANISH REP SAID HIS
SECRET

PAGE 02 NATO 01468 151906Z

INSTRUCTIONS CALLED FOR HIM TO STICK WITH THE LANGUAGE CONTAINED IN THE PREVIOUS DRAFT (REF B) BUT, SINCE THE NEW FORMULATION WAS ACCEPTABLE TO OTHER REPS, HE WOULD AGREE TO ITS INCLUSION IN THE FORMAL DRAFT FOR FINAL REVIEW AND APPROVAL IN CAPITALS.

2. SYG LUNS WILL NOW CIRCULATE FULL TEXT OF THE DRAFT COVER NOTE AND TOR FOR FINAL APPROVAL BY THE SILENCE PROCEDURE ON MARCH 25. WE PROVIDE IN PARAGRAPH 4 BELOW THE TEXT OF PARAGRAPH 3 OF THE COVER NOTE,

WHICH CONTAINS IN THE LAST TWO SENTENCES THE FORMULATION TABLED BY THE US REP, AS WELL AS A FEW OTHER EDITORIAL CHANGES. THE REMAINDER OF THE OVERALL DRAFT (I.E., PARAGRAPHS 1 AND 2 OF THE COVER NOTE AND THE TOR ITSELF) REMAIN THE SAME AS THAT CONTAINED IN REF B.

3. COMMENT: PRIOR TO THE MARCH 11 STAFF GROUP MEETING, WE DISCUSSED THE COVER NOTE PROBLEM WITH THE ITALIAN REP. HE WAS NOT DISPOSED TO ACCEPT THE ORIGINAL US PROPOSAL REPORTED TO WASHINGTON IN REF B. HOWEVER, HE ACCEPTED THE FORMULATION CONTAINED IN THE TEXT IN PARAGRAPH 4 BELOW, WHICH IS A MODIFIED VERSION OF THE ORIGINAL DRAFT. WE BELIEVE THIS FORMULATION PRESERVES THE FLEXIBILITY CALLED FOR IN WASHINGTON GUIDANCE (REF A), AND WE RECOMMEND ITS APPROVAL. WE ALSO RECOMMEND WASHINGTON APPROVAL OF THE REMAINDER OF THE COVER NOTE AND THE TOR. END COMMENT.

ACTION REQUESTED: WASHINGTON APPROVAL OF THE COVER NOTE AND TOR PRIOR TO MARCH 25.

4. BEGIN TEXT OF REVISED PARAGRAPH 3 OF COVER NOTE:

3. AGAINST THIS BACKGROUND THERE IS A WIDESPREAD FEELING THAT A BROAD STUDY OF MARITIME NUCLEAR WARFARE, SECRET

PAGE 03 NATO 01468 151906Z

INCLUDING THE IMPLICATIONS OF TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENTS, IS OVERDUE. NEVERTHELESS, BEFORE ANY DECISIONS CAN BE TAKEN ON SPECIFIC ISSUES WHICH MIGHT BE ADDRESSED IN SUCH A STUDY, IT WOULD CLEARLY BE VALUABLE TO HAVE AN ASSESSMENT FROM THE NATO MILITARY AUTHORITIES OF NATO'S AND THE WARSAW PACT'S CURRENT MARITIME NUCLEAR FORCE POSTURE AND POSSIBLE FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS. TERMS OF REFERENCE AT ANNEX FOR THE INITIAL STUDY ARE DESIGNED FOR THIS PURPOSE. ONE CONSEQUENCE IS THAT THEY SHOULD ENCOMPASS THE WHOLE NATO MARITIME AREA AND NOT ONLY THE ACLANT AND MEDITERRANEAN AREAS. WE BELIEVE THAT MINISTERS, WHEN EXAMINING THE RESULTS OF THE INITIAL STUDY, MAY WISH TO GIVE DIRECTIONS FOR FURTHER STUDY, AND IN PARTICULAR TO CONSIDER THE ISSUES THAT MIGHT BE COVERED. THEREFORE, IN OUR REPORT FORWARDING THE INITIAL STUDY TO MINISTERS, WE INTEND TO ADDRESS RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER WORK. END TEXT. STRAUSZ-HUPE

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